

How to Respond to God

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Pastor Mark Turner

Judges 10:1-10:18

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

God is Gracious 1-5

- Interlude in the narrative
- God sends Tola & Jair to save Israel from themselves ^{Jdg 2:18}
- God had warned His Covenant people Dt 8: 11-20
- God doesn't bless us because we obey, He blesses in love
- God will judge sin because He is Holy
- We need to be people who love God & His Word or else we will get pulled away & do what is right in our own eyes

Israel Back to the Old Ways 6

- Israel was now serving 7 false gods of the nations God judged Gen 15: 16 as he drove them out

God's Anger Shows 7-9

- God's anger for idolatry was kindled & He sold them into...
- God didn't wipe them out because God is a covenant keeping God and has a plan to redeem His people
- God will discipline His covenant people

Israel Cries Out to God 10

- Israel cries "uncle" - they tell God they sinned
- But they only express regret (sorry about consequences) and don't repent (change thinking & turn away from sin)

God Responds 11-14

- God will never respond to superficial regret, just repentance
- God often turns us over to what we sinfully pursue ^{Rm 1:18-32}
- We should ask if we are serving God or idols...

God's People Truly Confessed & Acted 15-16

- People confessed & threw themselves on God's mercy ^{Pr28: 13}
- David showed us how God responds to repentance Ps 51: 17
- Previously focused only on condition & comfort
- Now, they confess God is not obligated to fix situation
- True repentance expresses a sorrow for sin & loss of relationship with God alone. It sorrows over idolatrous motives which causes us to sorrow over sin.
- See Fruit to Root & Root to Fruit exercises

Reality Comes to Bear 17-18

- Ammonites assemble for battle
- Israel assembles with a renewed spirit & heart & waits on God

Lessons:

- We should live a life of repentance
 - Too many 'professors' are content to be like Israel and enjoy their sin instead of living in the power of the Gospel!
- The Gospel Reminds Us:
 - our sin was so bad it required God to send His Son, Jesus to atone for our sin
 - His love is so great He gives us His Spirit so we can walk in holy relationship with Him. The Garden relationship is restored!
 - The Gospel is not just a believe once, get out of Hell Free card. It is a restoration of relationship with God so we can walk in obedience and holiness and know joy and peace even in this fallen world.
 - God doesn't save us so we can go back and wallow in our sin... He will deal with our rebellion.
- We too often, like Israel, buy into the lies of the evil one and begin to believe lies about God:
 - We begin to believe God is holding out on us so we have to take action without God
 - We begin to believe that we are saved so now we can just live as we please... forgetting God wants us to be in relationship with Him according to His Word
 - Remember the GOSPEL: God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us and God gives us His Spirit so we can now walk in relationship with Him and produce the Fruit of the Spirit.

TO examine our hearts & walk in repentance:

Start with Fruit to Root exercise:

- 1) What am I doing or experiencing right now?
- 2) In light of that, what do I believe about myself?
HERE is where you learn what motives you need to repent of!
- 3) What do I believe God is doing or has done?
- 4) What do I believe God is like?

Root to Fruit – once I've identified my unbelief or sin struggle:

- 1) Who is God? **List out attributes of God's identity as they relate**
- 2) What has God done? **How has God proven this through Jesus?**
- 3) Who am I in light of God's work?
- 4) How should I then live in light of who I am in Christ?